MCB Mentorship Award
The Rules • Spring 2024

The goal of this award is to recognize individuals within the MCB community who have provided outstanding mentorship to others. In doing so, we hope to highlight the value that the MCB department puts on thoughtful mentorship and the impact mentorship can have on individual growth and the department as a whole.

Nominations are being accepted from NOW until Friday 3/29 at 11:59 pm.

The short nomination form -- 300 words or less -- can be completed using this link.

Between one and three candidates will be awarded a cash prize and a token of appreciation at MCB’s Community Forum on April 12th and in the MCB news channels.

We eagerly welcome nominations for impactful mentorship in any capacity. Generally, mentorship is a relationship in which one person (the mentor) utilizes their expertise in a certain area to guide another (the mentee) towards accomplishing goals that are defined by the mentee’s own aspirations. The mentor should provide a safe space for the mentee to share their goals and to troubleshoot challenges that arise along the way to reaching those goals.

Some examples of mentorship that may exist within the department include but are not limited to:
• Research mentorship (including development of technical and/or communication skills)
• Academic mentorship (e.g., thoughtful teaching, teaching development for students, or concentration advising)
• Workplace mentorship (e.g., skill building, support transitioning to a new role)
• Career mentorship (e.g., application support, career advising)

Who can nominate?
• Nominations may be submitted by anyone. Undergraduates, graduates, postdocs, administrative or research staff, or faculty from any department.
• While there is no formal place for a co-nomination this year, support from other individuals may be indicated in the nomination statement.

Who can be nominated?
• Nominees may hold any position within the MCB department but must be affiliated with the department in some way. Undergraduates in an MCB-affiliated concentration (MCB, CPB, Neuro), graduate students in an MCB program, MCB staff or faculty may be nominated.

A mentor could be…
• a graduate student, postdoctoral fellow, or a research staff member who advises and trains a new member of the lab
• a section teaching fellow who thoughtfully offers insight into post-grad plans or finding undergraduate research opportunities
• a head teaching fellow or instructor who supports a new teaching fellow in the classroom
• an administrator who has facilitated the onboarding of a new staff member in the department

The nomination statement should be 300 words or less
It should explain how the nominee has demonstrated outstanding mentorship and positively benefited you and/or others in a mentee position. Please also describe the nature of the mentorship (academic, research, career, etc.).

We highly encourage you to nominate an influential mentor from your MCB experience.
We are excited about this opportunity to recognize the importance and value of mentorship.